Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend the claims as shown below. Please cancel Claim 15 without prejudice. Please add claims 18 and 19 as shown below. This Listing of Claims will replace prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An image processing device comprising:

calculating means for calculating a highlight point and a shadow point of an image from a histogram of the image;

~~setting means for setting a target highlight point and a target shadow point based on photographic information of the image;~~

first generating means for generating a gradation correction based on the highlight point, the shadow point, ~~the~~ a target highlight point and ~~the~~ a target shadow point;

detecting means for detecting a face region in the image;

determining means for determining a representative luminance of the detected face region based on a histogram of the face region, the histogram of the face region being corrected based on the highlight point and the shadow point;

second generating means for generating an exposure correction based on a histogram of ~~the face region~~ the representative luminance; and

correcting means for correcting the image based on the gradation correction and the exposure correction.

2-4. (Cancelled)

5. (Currently Amended) An image processing method comprising:

calculating a highlight point and a shadow point of an image from a histogram of the image;

generating a gradation correction based on the highlight point and the shadow point ;

detecting a face region in the image;

calculating a representative luminance of the detected face region;

setting a target luminance based on the representative luminance and reference face luminance;

generating an exposure correction based on the representative luminance and the target luminance; and

correcting the image based on the gradation correction and the exposure correction.

6-11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) An image processing method comprising:

calculating a highlight point and a shadow point of an image from a histogram of the image;

~~setting a target highlight point and a target shadow point based on photographic information of the image;~~

generating a gradation correction based on the highlight point, the shadow point, ~~the~~ a target highlight point and ~~the~~ a target shadow point;

detecting a face region in the image;

determining a representative luminance of the detected face region based on a histogram of the face region, the histogram of the face region being corrected based on the highlight point and the shadow point;

generating an exposure correction based on a histogram of ~~the face region~~ the representative luminance; and

correcting the image based on the gradation correction and the exposure correction.

13. (Currently Amended) An image processing device comprising:

first calculating means for calculating a highlight point and a shadow point of an image from a histogram of the image;

first generating means for generating a gradation correction based on the highlight point and the shadow point;

detecting means for detecting a face region in the image;

second calculating means for calculating a representative luminance of the detected face region;

setting means for setting a target luminance based on the representative luminance and reference face luminance;

second generating means for generating an exposure correction based on the representative luminance and the target luminance; and

correcting means for correcting the image based on the gradation correction and the exposure correction.

14-15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended) The image processing device according to claim 1, further comprising rotating means for rotating the image in accordance with a posture in the a photographic information of the image.

17. (Currently Amended) The image processing method according to claim 1 5, wherein the second generating means calculates a γ value based on the representative luminance and the target luminance.

18. (New) A computer-readable storage medium for storing computer-executable process steps of an image processing device comprising:

calculating a highlight point and a shadow point of an image from a histogram of the image;

generating a gradation correction based on the highlight point, the shadow point, a target highlight point and a target shadow point;

detecting a face region in the image;

determining a representative luminance of the detected face region based on a histogram of the face region, the histogram of the face region being corrected based on the highlight point and the shadow point;

generating an exposure correction based on a histogram of the representative luminance; and

correcting the image based on the gradation correction and the exposure correction.

19. (New) A computer-readable storage medium for storing computer-executable process steps of an image processing device comprising:

calculating a highlight point and a shadow point of an image from a histogram of the image;

generating a gradation correction based on the highlight point and the shadow point ;

detecting a face region in the image;

calculating a representative luminance of the detected face region;

setting a target luminance based on the representative luminance and reference face luminance;

generating an exposure correction based on the representative luminance and the target luminance; and

correcting the image based on the gradation correction and the exposure correction.